



Yuma County, Arizona
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Interpretation File

FROM: Monty M. Stansbury, Planning Director *MS*

SUBJECT: Interpretation; what constitutes a cemetery

DATE: September 16, 2003

The present Zoning Ordinance for Yuma County does not define the term cemetery. Webster's College Dictionary, second edition published in 1999 defines cemetery as a burial ground for the dead. The New Illustrated Book of Development Definitions by H.S. Moskowitz and C.G. Lindbloom, published 1995 defines cemetery as property used for the interring of the dead. References from the Glossary of Zoning, Development, and Planning Terms dated 1999 has the following jurisdictional definitions for cemetery:

Land used or dedicated to the burial of the dead, including crematorium, mausoleums, necessary sales, and maintenance facilities. Mortuaries shall be included when operated within the boundary of such cemetery. – *Blacksburg, VA*

A place used for interment of human or animal remains or cremated remains, including a burial park for earth interments, a mausoleum for vault or crypt interments, a columbarium for cinerary interments, or a combination thereof. – *Carroll County, MD*

Land used for the burial of the dead, and dedicated for cemetery purposes, excluding columbariums, crematories, mausoleums and mortuaries. – *Stonnington, Conn.*

It is determined as my interpretation that a burial of a single family member on private property does not constitute a cemetery. The land use designation of a cemetery would constitute the intent to dedicate property to the interment of human or animal remains by designated and described blocks or plots and therefore would require two or more burial sites to comprise a cemetery.

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